IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: Kitamura=1

In re Application of:

Hidetomo KITAMURA

Appln. No.: 09/380,372

Filed: September 1, 1999

For: NOVEL CELL LINES AND SCREENING METHODS...

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231 $\,$

Sir:

Prior to any action in this case, and supplementing the Preliminary Amendment filed upon entry of the present application into the U.S. national stage on September 1, 1999, please further amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1, line 2, after "and", please insert --capable of differentiating into--.

Please add the following new claims:

- --14. The cell line of claim 2, which is derived from undifferentiated mesenchymal cells.
- --15. A method for screening for a cell differentiation-controlling material, comprising using the cell line of claim 14.